

Small Group Questions On the Edge: Curse or Praise

1/08/12

Consider the numerous sins expressed by the tongue; slander, lies, cursing, gossip, haughtiness, contempt, complaining, bitterness, malice, unrighteous anger, etc... What would you say is your biggest struggle?

Getting Started...

What was your favorite memory this Christmas? It could be a gift, an encounter with God, or a time with family.

What was the biggest challenge that you faced this Christmas? Was there a tough family dinner, a relational rift, or any difficulty that you faced?

What have you learned so far in the 40 day challenge?

Digging Deeper...

Read James 3:1-12

James is clear that the tongue has tremendous power to steer us in directions we don't want to go. Can you think of a time your tongue got you into a situation you never intended?

According to James 3:11-12, what spills forth from the tongue is an overflow from another source. In Matthew 15:15-20 Jesus clarifies that source is the heart. Considering your answer from the first question, what sins of the heart are at the center of the struggles you have with your tongue?

In Colossians 3:12-17, Paul gives a model for change, to put off sins and put on a righteous behavior. What righteous behavior would best replace the sin(s) you have identified above? How will you go about "putting it on"?

On the Edge: Curse or Praise

Pastor Ronn Smith

1/08/12

99% of life is spillover. That is to say that life happens too fast and takes too many unexpected turns for us to calculate a righteous response in every situation. Thus, what comes out at the spur of the moment, or in the heat of the moment, is a result of what we have filled ourselves with. What is the main source of your fountain? Television, the internet, books, friends? Do you think your time in the Word is sufficient to keep your tongue from being polluted by the worldly influences all around?

We have all _____ something _____.

What we _____ determines _____.

Considering your answer to the previous question, write out a prayer of what God has brought to your attention.

What we _____ comes from _____.